

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of backing up vehicular data in a vehicular system that includes an engine electronic control unit for controlling an engine and a plurality of electronic units including a data storing function, each of the electronic units being arranged so as to be separated from the engine electronic control unit, with the vehicular system being configured such that data can be transmitted and received between the engine electronic control unit and the electronic units via a vehicular communication network, the method comprising:

recognizing with a flag, in the engine electronic control unit, a first time the engine electronic control unit is installed;

storing the most recent content of accumulated data including an engine running time data and a running history data in the engine electronic control unit and as backup data in the electronic units via the vehicular communication network at an appropriate time;

transferring, when the engine electronic control unit is replaced, the backup data via the vehicular communication network to a replaced engine electronic control unit from any of the electronic units with reference to the flag provided in the replaced engine electronic unit; and

initializing the replaced engine electronic unit with the backup data transferred via the vehicular communication network.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The vehicular data backup method of claim 1, further comprising demanding a transferring of the backup data from any of the electronic units when the engine electronic control unit has been replaced; and

when it has been determined that the backup data which has been transferred from any of the electronic units when the engine electronic control unit has been replaced cannot be used, initializing the engine electronic control unit with default data.

4. (Previously Presented) The vehicular data backup method of claim 3, wherein the default data is stored in a memory in the engine electronic control unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The vehicular data backup method of claim 1, wherein a non-volatile memory is disposed in the electronic unit, and the backup data is stored in the non-volatile memory.

6.-8. (Cancelled)